

with him in 1874 quickly became the nucleus of a brass band when he arrived in Midway to make his first American home.

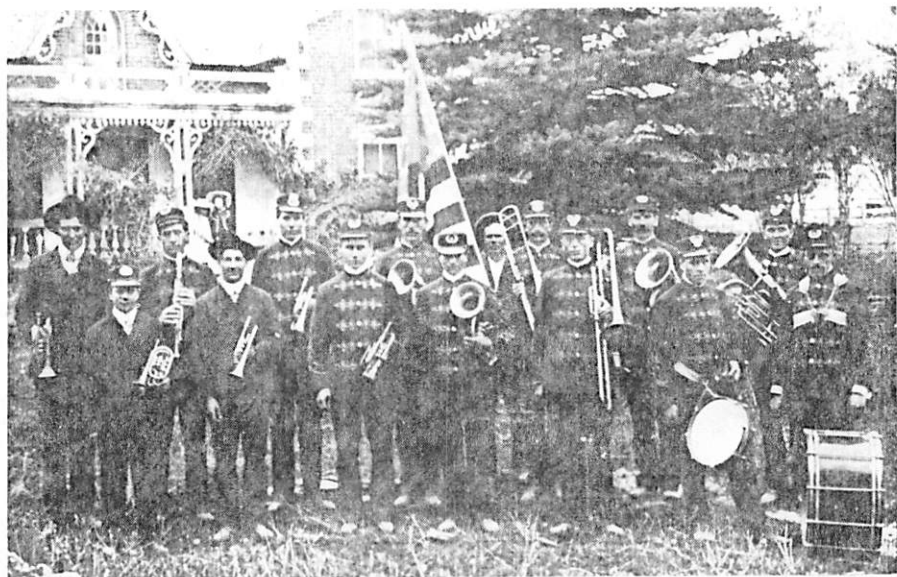
Members of Mr. Burgener's band included Peter Abplanalp, S. J. Schneitter, Joseph and Conrad Abegglen and John and Christian Burgener and Christian Burgi.

The thrilling music of this band made the holidays and celebrations unforgettable. People came from all parts of the valley to enjoy Mr. Burgener's early morning parades, patriotic marches, American and Swiss selections as well as many of his own arrangements.

Another brass band was organized later by Robert Krebs. Members included Fred Sonderegger, George Burgener, John Burgener, F. O. Haueter, Fred Kohler, Charles Bigler, Edward Burgener, Arnold Burgener, John Sonderegger, Henry Zenger, Alma Burgener and William Bigler.

The third band to gain favorable recognition was organized in 1898 by Arnold Burgener, son of the old Swiss bandmaster.

Known as the Midway Independent Brass Band, this group achieved a favorable reputation in many parts of the state. They played on all holiday occasions and frequently gave concerts in neighboring counties. Members of this band included Will Bigler, Walter Burgener, John Sonderegger, Fred O. Haueter, Arnold Burgener, Will Buhler, Eph Mohl-



The Third Midway Brass Band posing for a picture on November 28, 1899. On the first row, left to right, are Walter Burgener, Fred O. Haueter, Will Buhler, Frank Abplanalp, Peter Boss, Laurence Epperson and Bennie Clark. Shown on the second row are Will Bigler, John Sonderegger, Arnold Burgener, Ephraim Mohlman, Simon Epperson, William Mathews, Fred Burgener and Henry Zenger. The little girls on the porch are Lillie Watkins and Pansy Bonner.



The Robert Krebs Boys Band, shown here in an 1898 photograph, includes, front row, left to right, Wallace Epperson, Elmer Burgener, Clarence Shields, Jess Bigler, Rolland Krebs, David Provost, Emery Epperson and Ellis Epperson. Back row: Charles Van Wagoner, Charles Bonner, Walter Burgener, Tracy Watkins, Roswell Blood, Nephi Sulser, Edward Burgener, Amos Epperson, Robert Krebs, leader, and Ernest Sonderegger, Jr.

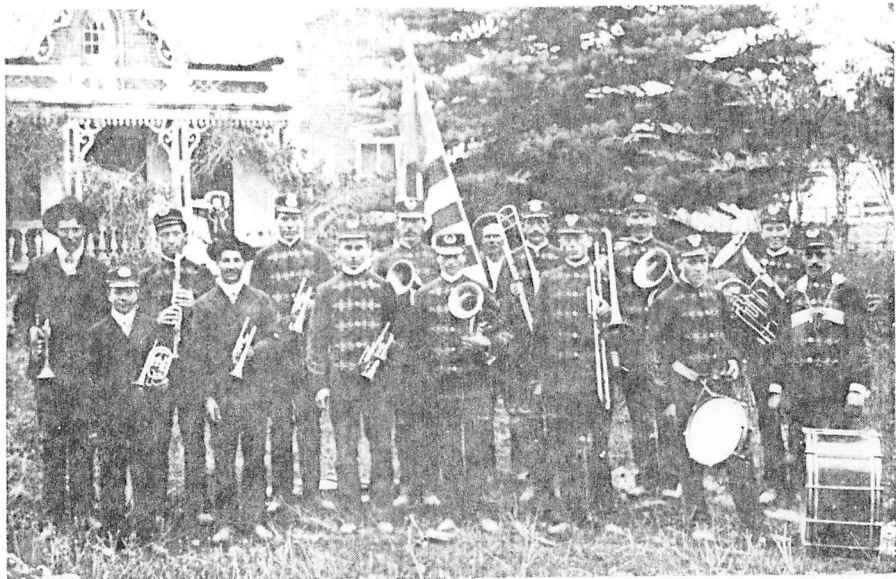
man, Frank Abplanalp, Simon Epperson, Will Matthews, Peter Boss, J. Fred Burgener, Lawrence Epperson, Henry Zenger and Bennie Clark.

At the same time as the Independent band was flourishing another group was being formed, including many young men. Robert Krebs, who possessed a great musical talent, and also a love for boys, organized a junior band that became known throughout the state. Members of this band included Wallace Epperson, Elmer Burgener, Clarence Shields, Jess Bigler, Rolland Krebs, David Provost, Emery Epperson, Ellis Epperson, Charles Van Wagoner, Charles Bonner, Walter Burgener, Tracy Watkins, Roswell Blood, Nephi Sulser, Edward Burgener, Amos Epperson, Ernest E. Sonderegger.

A very promising band was organized in 1913 under the direction of Fred O. Haueter. The group became very popular, but when the nation entered World War I many of the band members answered service calls and the band soon ended. Members of the band during its four years existence included Ellis Epperson, Walter Burgener, David Provost, Karl Probst, Clarence Probst, John Burgener, Bernard Kennah, Delbert Ross, Henry Zenger, William Haueter, Edward Burgener, Jess Bigler, William Bigler, Alva Ross, Reed Alder, and Ernest E. Sonderegger.

In more recent years there have been bands directed by Karl Probst, Clarence Probst and El Roy Van Wagoner, but the dominant position once enjoyed by the brass bands is becoming a thing of the past.

Orchestra music for dances has also been a lively part of the Mid-



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